

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, February 27, 1892, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Rome Hotel  
Bristol, Feb. 27, 1892. My dear Alec:

I think it awfully mean of you not to telegraph me from Gibraltar. I don't understand why you didn't because you surely cannot have been too busy to think of it. I presume that the Fulda and her passengers are all right or I should have heard, but I had rather know that one at least is well and as happy as he should be without his family.

The carnival today was rather a failure on account of the weather which was damp with occasional rains. The cars promenaded up and down as in duty bound I believe, but they looked bedraggled and soiled and the occupants tired and bored, with scarcely life enough to respond to the flowers thrown at them. However, the children had invited a little fellow passenger of the Werra to occupy the balcony with them and seemed to enjoy the afternoon as much as the first, so I was satisfied. We bought three big flat baskets of flowers, common meadow laurel, daisies and dandelions, made up into innumerable little bouquets for three francs and a half, and four large bouquets of violets for two. Then we had another basket of the meadow flowers, some daffodile, bunches of purple poppies, pansies and white stock. There were hardly any costumes on foot today, and the crowd did not compare with that of Thursday, still it was a remarkable one.

This morning we did the Casino Rospiglioni with Guide Renis. Aurora which I had never seen before, and then Capitolino Museum where we found your St. Sebastian. I like the Aurora very much, and the St. Sebastian which is also by Guido Reni, but the other works by him I think insipid. The children admire them however. It is a shame going through these galleries so hurriedly. I cannot study the paintings so as to get any real good out of them, but as far as I can judge they are not as fine as the Florentino. Daisy is a real

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little traveller and enjoys everything, Elsie likes the galleries when she gets there, but she doesn't seem to want to go anywhere except to the carnival or to drive in the Borghese and see the Queen again. Charles went to a masked ball with some of the other man servants here and had a very good time.

I have heard from Mr. McCurdy from Genoa and from Milan, he seems to be enjoying his trip, what a gorgeous thing to be a man and be able to travel all over Europe at a moments notice alone.

I feel guilty about leaving you all alone in Boston, will it not seem like old bachelor days living in Boston again and without wife or children. Only do be careful of yourself and don't take cold, and don't over work. Mr. McCurdy sent me his photograph of you and it is upon the mantelpiece of the parlor, and it is more of a comfort than I thought photographs ever were. I miss you very much, and you are sailing even further away from me. Why didn't you telegraph, I watched and waited for it.

Lovingly always yours, Mabel. The children are anxious I should not forget to send their love.